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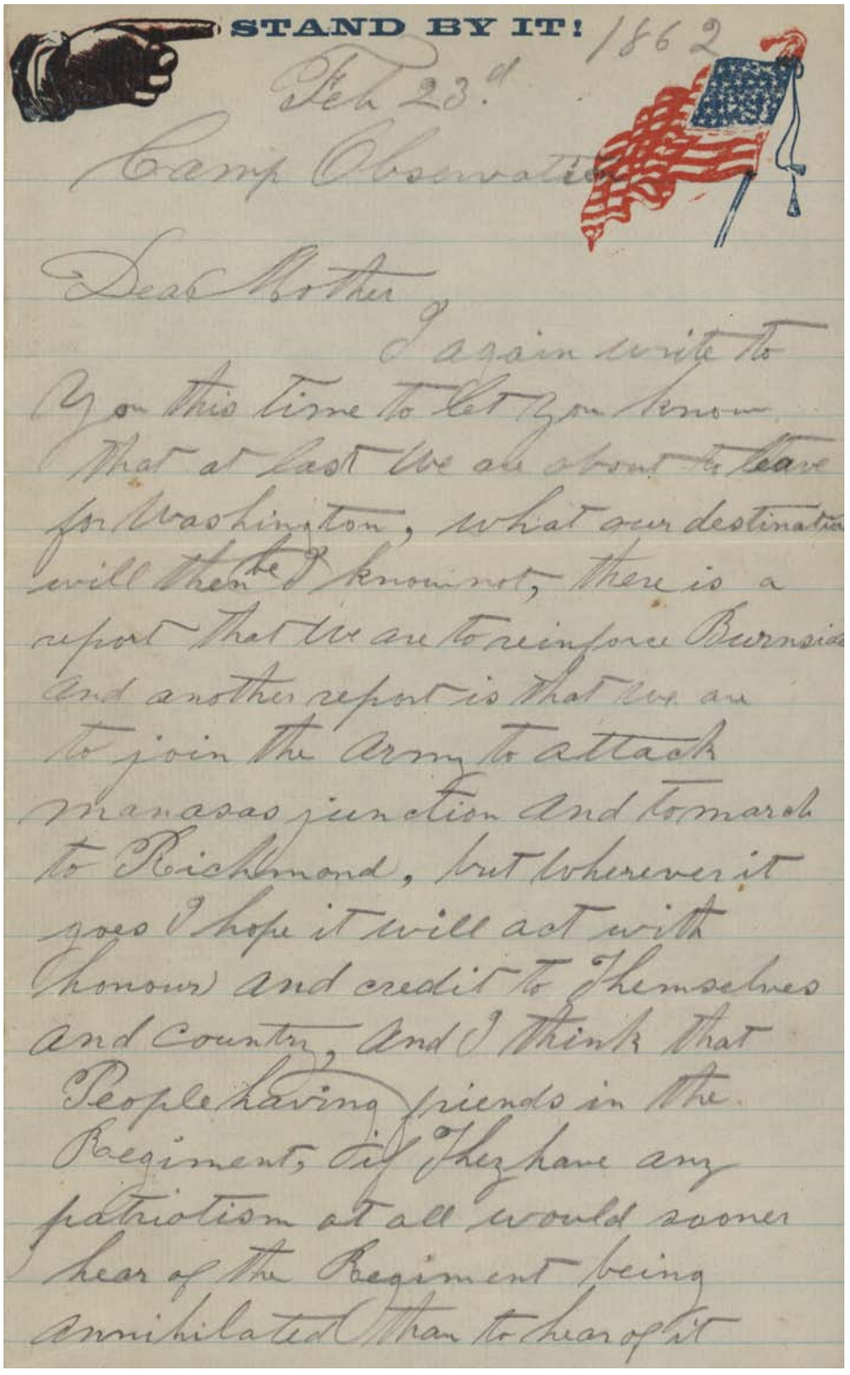
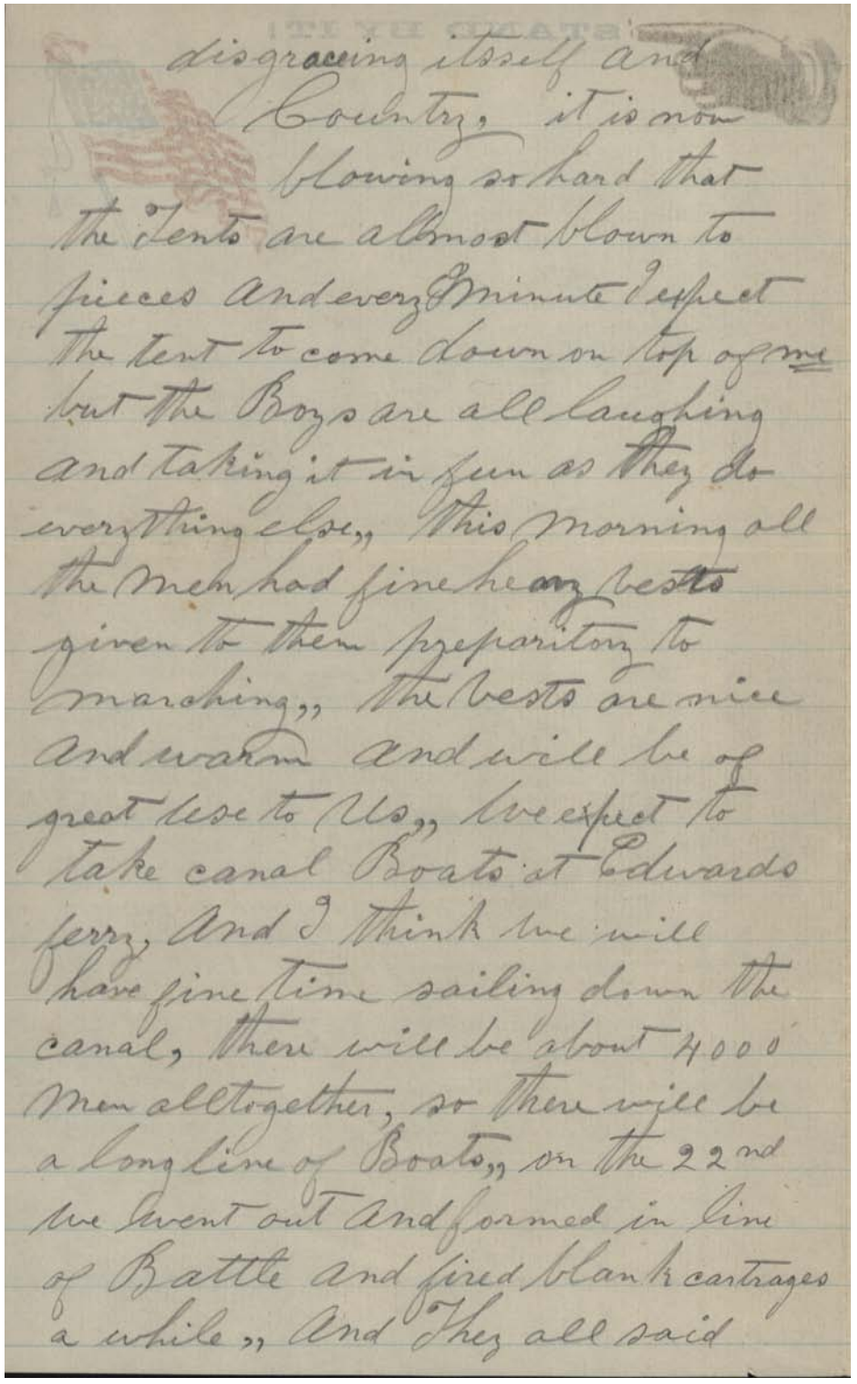
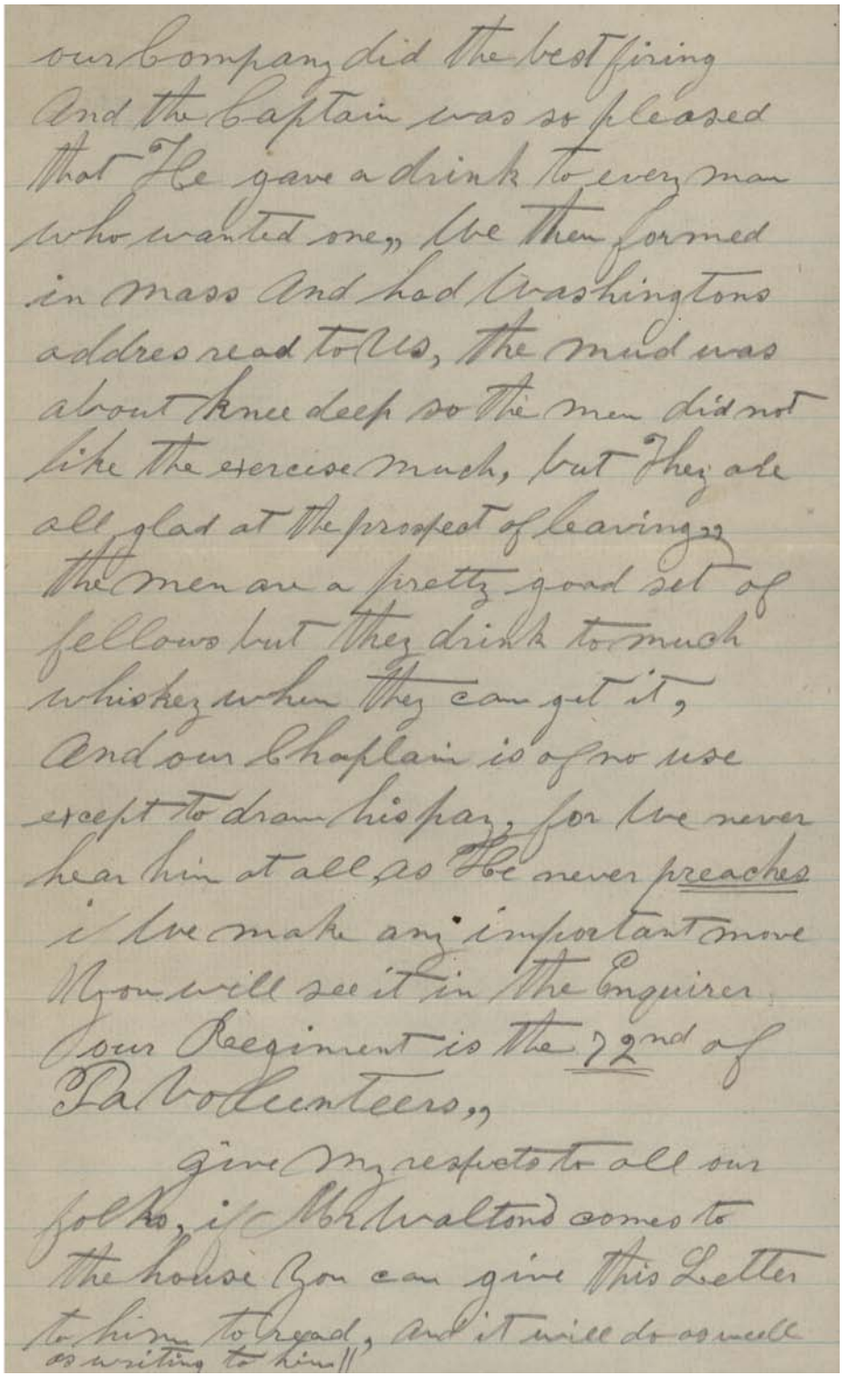


1862
Feb 23d.
Camp Observation
Dear Mother
I again write to You this time to let you know that at last we are about to leave for Washington, what our destination will then be I know not, there is a report that we are to reinforce Burnside [Ambrose E. Burnside] And another report is that we are to join the Army to attack Manasas [Manassas] junction And to march to Richmond, but wherever it goes I hope it will act with honour and credit to Themselves And Country, And I think that People having friends in the Regiment, if They have any patriotism at all would sooner hear of the Regiment being annihilated than to hear of it



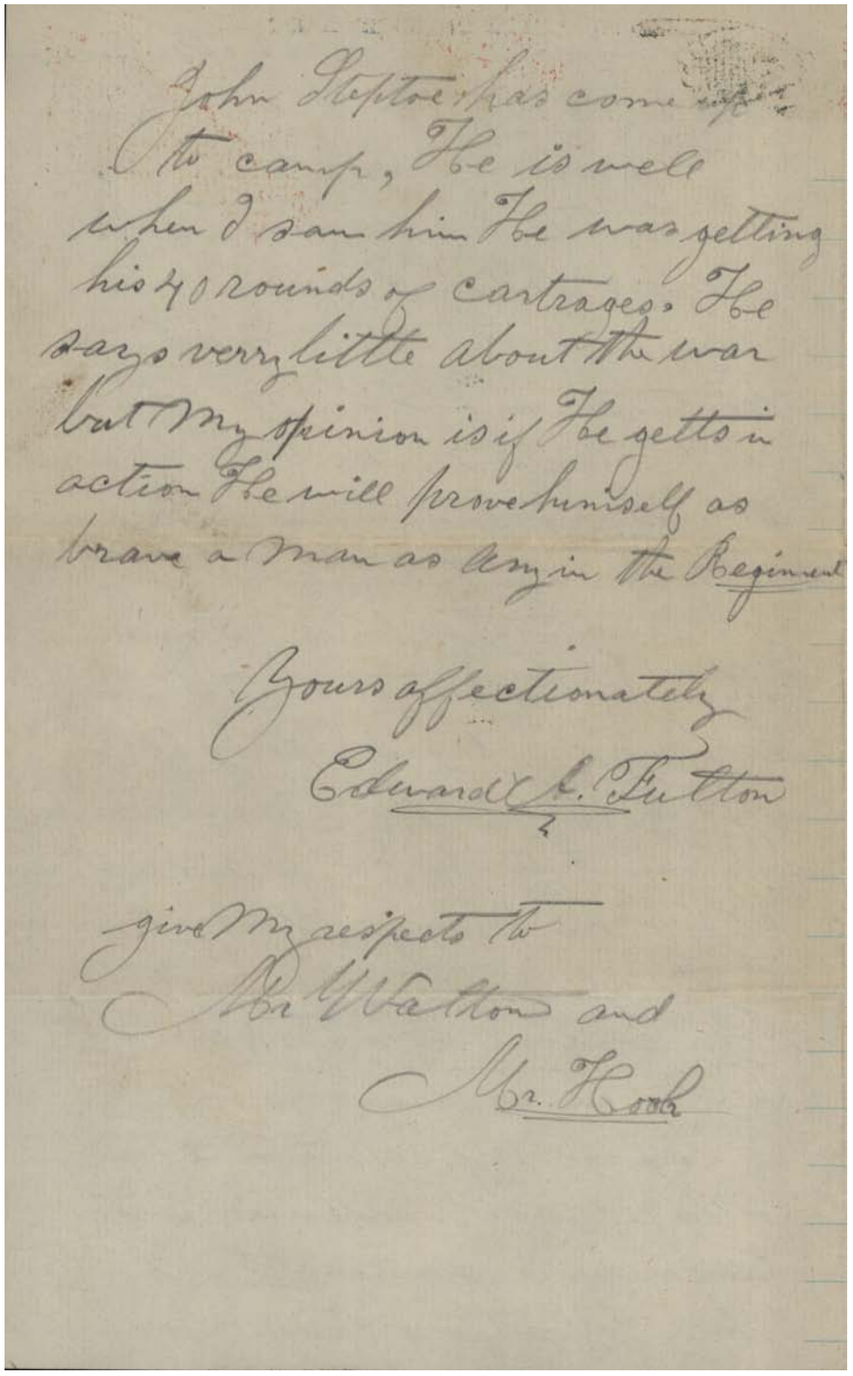
disgraceing itsself And Country, it is now blowing so hard that the Tents are almost blown to pieces And every Minute I expect the tent to come down on top of [underline]me[underline] but the Boys are all laughing and taking it in fun as they do everything else,, this morning all the men had fine heavy vests given to them preparitory to marching,, the vests Are nice And warm and will be of great use to Us,, We expect to take canal Boats at Edwards ferry [Edward's Ferry], And I think we will have fine time sailing down the canal, there will be about 4000 Men alltogether, so there will be a long line of Boats,, on the 22nd we went out And formed in line of Battle And fired blank cartrages a while,, And They all said



our Company did the best firing
And the Captain was so pleased
that He gave a drink to every man
who wanted one,, We then formed
in mass And had Washingtons
addres read to us, the mud was
about knee deep so the men did not
like the exercise much, but They are
all glad at the prospect of leaving,,
the men are a pretty good set of
fellows but they drink to much
whiskey when they can get it,
And our Chaplain is of no use
except to draw his pay, for we never
hear him at all as He never preaches
if We make any important move
You will see it in the Enquirer
Your Regiment is the 72nd of
Pa Volunteers,,
give my respects to all our
folks, if Mr Walton comes to
the house You can give this Letter
to him to read, and it will do as well
as writing to him,,

our Company did the best firing And the Captain was so pleased that He gave a drink to every man who wanted one,, We then formed in Mass And had Washingtons [George Washington's] addres read to Us, The mud was about knee deep so the men did not like the exercise much, but They are all glad at the prospect of leaving,, the men are a pretty good set of fellows but they drink to much whiskey when they can get it, And our Chaplain is of no use except to draw his pay, for we never hear him at all, as He never [underline]preaches[underline] if we make any important move You will see it in the Enquirer our Regiment is the [underline]72nd[underline] of Pa volunteers,,

give my respects to all our folks, if Mr Walton [Alfred Walton] comes to the house you can give this Letter to him to read, and it will do as well as writing to him,,



John Steptoe has come up to camp, He is well when I saw him He was getting his 40 rounds of cartrages. He says very little about the war but My opinion is if He getts in action He will prove himself as brave a Man as any in the [underline]Regiment[underline]

Yours affectionately
Edward A. Fulton [Edward A. Fulton]

give My respects to Mr Walton [Alfred Walton] and Mr Hook

Mrs Mar Fulton
East 9 St
Wilmington
Delaware